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APPLICATION NO.	FILING DATE	FIRST NAMED INVENTOR	ATTORNEY DOCKET NO.	CONFIRMATION NO.
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10/813,135

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Seiji Okura

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EXAMINER

JACKSON, JAKIEDA R

ART UNIT

PAPER NUMBER

2626

DATE MAILED: 11/16/2006

Please find below and/or attached an Office communication concerning this application or proceeding.

<b>Office Action Summary</b>	<b>Application No.</b>	<b>Applicant(s)</b>	
	10/813,135	OKURA ET AL.	
	<b>Examiner</b>	<b>Art Unit</b>	
	Jakieda R. Jackson	2626	

-- The MAILING DATE of this communication appears on the cover sheet with the correspondence address --  
**Period for Reply**

A SHORTENED STATUTORY PERIOD FOR REPLY IS SET TO EXPIRE 3 MONTH(S) OR THIRTY (30) DAYS, WHICHEVER IS LONGER, FROM THE MAILING DATE OF THIS COMMUNICATION.

- Extensions of time may be available under the provisions of 37 CFR 1.136(a). In no event, however, may a reply be timely filed after SIX (6) MONTHS from the mailing date of this communication.
- If NO period for reply is specified above, the maximum statutory period will apply and will expire SIX (6) MONTHS from the mailing date of this communication.
- Failure to reply within the set or extended period for reply will, by statute, cause the application to become ABANDONED (35 U.S.C. § 133). Any reply received by the Office later than three months after the mailing date of this communication, even if timely filed, may reduce any earned patent term adjustment. See 37 CFR 1.704(b).

#### Status

- 1) ☐ Responsive to communication(s) filed on \_\_\_\_.
- 2a) ☐ This action is FINAL.                      2b) ☒ This action is non-final.
- 3) ☐ Since this application is in condition for allowance except for formal matters, prosecution as to the merits is closed in accordance with the practice under *Ex parte Quayle*, 1935 C.D. 11, 453 O.G. 213.

#### Disposition of Claims

- 4) ☒ Claim(s) 1-27 is/are pending in the application.
- 4a) Of the above claim(s) \_\_\_\_ is/are withdrawn from consideration.
- 5) ☐ Claim(s) \_\_\_\_ is/are allowed.
- 6) ☒ Claim(s) 1-27 is/are rejected.
- 7) ☐ Claim(s) \_\_\_\_ is/are objected to.
- 8) ☐ Claim(s) \_\_\_\_ are subject to restriction and/or election requirement.

#### Application Papers

- 9) ☐ The specification is objected to by the Examiner.
- 10) ☒ The drawing(s) filed on 31 March 2004 is/are: a) ☒ accepted or b) ☐ objected to by the Examiner.  
Applicant may not request that any objection to the drawing(s) be held in abeyance. See 37 CFR 1.85(a).  
Replacement drawing sheet(s) including the correction is required if the drawing(s) is objected to. See 37 CFR 1.121(d).
- 11) ☐ The oath or declaration is objected to by the Examiner. Note the attached Office Action or form PTO-152.

#### Priority under 35 U.S.C. § 119

- 12) ☐ Acknowledgment is made of a claim for foreign priority under 35 U.S.C. § 119(a)-(d) or (f).
- a) ☐ All    b) ☐ Some \* c) ☐ None of:
1. ☐ Certified copies of the priority documents have been received.
2. ☐ Certified copies of the priority documents have been received in Application No. \_\_\_\_.
3. ☐ Copies of the certified copies of the priority documents have been received in this National Stage application from the International Bureau (PCT Rule 17.2(a)).

\* See the attached detailed Office action for a list of the certified copies not received.

#### Attachment(s)

- |  |   |
|--|---|
| 1) <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Notice of References Cited (PTO-892)            | 4) <input type="checkbox"/> Interview Summary (PTO-413)           |
| 2) <input type="checkbox"/> Notice of Draftsperson's Patent Drawing Review (PTO-948)   | Paper No(s)/Mail Date. ____.                                      |
| 3) <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Information Disclosure Statement(s) (PTO/SB/08) | 5) <input type="checkbox"/> Notice of Informal Patent Application |
| Paper No(s)/Mail Date ____.  | 6) <input type="checkbox"/> Other: ____.                          |

## **DETAILED ACTION**

### ***Specification***

1. The title of the invention is not descriptive. A new title is required that is clearly indicative of the invention to which the claims are directed.
2. The Specification is objected to because the term "voice recognition" is misused for what nowadays is called --speech recognition-- in the speech signal processing art. While "voice recognition" and "speech recognition" were both once used interchangeably to refer to spoken word recognition, nowadays these two terms are distinguished. The term "voice recognition" now denotes identification of who is doing the speaking (class 704/246), while "speech recognition" (or word recognition) denotes identification of what is being said (class 704/251). So, appropriate correction to the proper terms of art is required.

### ***Claim Objections***

3. Claims 14 and 25-27 are objected as being improper for failing to further limit the subject matter of a previous claim. Claims 14 and 25-27 recite the same language of claims 1, 9, 11 and 13, respectively. Appropriate corrections required.

***Claim Rejections - 35 USC § 102***

4. The following is a quotation of the appropriate paragraphs of 35 U.S.C. 102 that form the basis for the rejections under this section made in this Office action:

A person shall be entitled to a patent unless –

(b) the invention was patented or described in a printed publication in this or a foreign country or in public use or on sale in this country, more than one year prior to the date of application for patent in the United States.

5. **Claims 1-27** are rejected under 35 U.S.C. 102(b) as being anticipated by Lee (USPN 6,067,520).

Regarding **claims 1, 16, 19, 22 and 25**, Lee discloses a system, method and computer-readable storage medium, hereinafter referenced as a system, for translating an original sentence, comprising:

a translation unit translating an inputted original sentence by selecting each translation word one by one from a plurality of translation words corresponding to each word composing the original sentence and combining the selected translation words (column 5, line 50 – column 6, line 11 with column 12, lines 22-49);

a voice recognition unit (recognition of the input speech) selecting a translation word matching inputted pronunciation from a plurality of translation words that correspond to the word but have not been selected by the translation unit, and outputting the selected translation word as a result of the voice recognition (column 5, lines 50-64); and

a correction unit correcting (correct) the sentence translated by the translation unit using the translation words outputted from the voice recognition unit (column 5, line

65 – column 6, line 11 with column 11, line 66 – column 12, line 1 and column 19, lines 1-9).

Regarding **claim 2**, Lee discloses a system comprising:

    a translation word dictionary file storage unit storing a translation word dictionary file in which both a word used in the original sentence and a translation word for the word are related and registered (column 5, line 65 – column 6, line 11); and

    an extraction unit extracting a translation word related to each word composing the original sentence inputted to the translation unit (column 5, line 50 – column 6, line 11), wherein

        said translation unit selects a translation word to be used in a translated sentence from a plurality of the translation words selected by the extraction unit (column 5, lines 50-64), and

        said voice recognition unit (recognition of speech) selects a translation word matching to inputted pronunciation from a plurality of the translation words extracted by the extraction unit and have not been selected by said translation unit (column 5, lines 50-64).

Regarding **claim 3**, Lee discloses a system comprising

    an instruction input unit instructing said system to replace some translation word composing the sentence translated by said translation unit with another translation word or to correct the whole translated sentence (correct; column 5, line 65 – column 6, line 11) wherein

when an instruction to correct the whole sentence translated by said translation unit is inputted to the instruction input unit, said voice recognition unit divides (divided) information indicating the inputted pronunciation and selecting a translation word matching the divided information from the plurality of translation words that correspond to the word but have not been selected by said translation unit (column 8, lines 5-12).

Regarding **claim 4**, Lee discloses a system wherein

when there is a translation word related to the translation word outputted from said voice recognition unit (recognition of input speech) in the translation words that correspond to the word but have not been selected by said translation unit, said correction unit corrects the sentence translated by said translation unit, using both the translation words not selected by said translation unit and the translation words outputted from said voice recognition unit (column 5, line 50 – column 6, line 11).

Regarding **claim 5**, Lee discloses a system wherein

if there is a relationship between translation words registered in said translation word dictionary file, information indicating the fact is further registered (stored in memory; column 19, lines 11-57), and

if information indicating that a translation word that corresponds to the word but has not been selected by said translation unit has a relationship with the translation word outputted from said voice recognition unit is registered in said translation word dictionary file (column 5, lines 50-64), said correction unit corrects the sentence translated by said translation unit, using both the translation word not selected by said

translation unit and the translation word outputted from said voice recognition unit (column 19, lines 1-10).

Regarding **claim 6**, Lee discloses a system wherein  
when a part of speech of the translation word outputted from said voice recognition unit differs (difference in parts of speech) from a part of speech of a translation word to be replaced before correction, said correction unit re-translates the whole translated sentence inputted to the translation unit, using the translation word inputted to said voice recognition unit (column 14, line 49 – column 15, line 22).

Regarding **claim 7**, Lee discloses a system wherein  
if the part of speech (parts-of-speech) of the translation word outputted from said voice recognition unit coincides (consistent) with the part of speech the translation word to be replaced before correction, said correction unit partially replaces some translation word composing the sentence translated by said translation unit, with the translation word outputted from said voice recognition unit (column 14, line 49 – column 15, line 22).

Regarding **claim 8**, Lee discloses a system further comprising  
a category determination unit (word association) determining a category to which a topic of the original sentence inputted to said translation unit belongs, based on contents corrected by said correction unit (column 13, lines 51-58),

wherein when translating a newly inputted original sentence, said translation unit uses with priority (priority) a translation word that is frequently used (frequently used) in

the category determined by said category determination unit (column 10, lines 57-61 with column 13, lines 33-37).

Regarding **claims 9 and 14**, Lee discloses a system further comprising a translation word category information file storage unit storing a translation word category information file in which information indicating a category in which a translation word for a word used in an original sentence is frequently used is registered (frequently used; column 10, lines 54-61 with column 13, lines 33-37), wherein

said category (word class) determination unit determines a category in which a translation word used when said correction unit corrects the translated sentence is frequently used, based on information registered in the translation word category information file (column 13, lines 38-58).

Regarding **claim 10**, Lee discloses a system comprising:

a category determination unit determining a category to which a topic of an original sentence inputted to said translation unit belongs (column 13, lines 51-58 with column 19, lines 1-57), wherein

information indicating a category in which a translation word registered in the translation word dictionary file is frequently used (frequently used) is further registered in the translation word dictionary file (column 10, lines 57-61 with column 13, lines 33-37 and column 19, lines 1-10),

said category determination unit determines a category in which a translation word used when said correction unit corrects the translated sentence is frequently used,



based on information registered in the translation word category information file (column 19, lines 1-10), and

when translating a newly inputted original sentence, said translation unit uses with priority (priority) a translation word that corresponds to a word used in the inputted original sentence, of a plurality of translation words registered in the translation word dictionary file if information indicating that the translation word is frequently used (frequently used) in a category determined by said category determination unit is registered in the translation word dictionary file (column 10, lines 57-61 with column 13, lines 33-37 and column 19, lines 1-10).

Regarding **claims 11, 17, 20, 23 and 26**, Lee discloses a system, method, computer-readable storage medium and computer data signal, hereinafter referenced as a system, for translating an original sentence, comprising:

a translation unit translating an inputted original sentence (column 5, line 50 – column 6, line 11 with column 12, lines 22-49);

a translation word input unit inputting another translation word when replacing a translation word used in the sentence translated by the translation unit with the translation word (column 5, line 65 – column 6, line 11); and

a correction unit re-translating the whole original sentence, using the translation word inputted to the translation word input unit if a part of speech of another translation word inputted to the translation word input unit differs from a part of speech (difference of part of speech) of a translation word to be replaced with another translation word (column 14, line 49 – column 15, line 22).

Regarding **claim 12**, Lee discloses a system wherein  
if the part of speech (parts of speech) of the translation word inputted to said translation word input unit coincides (consistent) with the part of speech of another translation word to be replaced with the translation word, said correction unit partially replaces some translation word composing the sentence translated by said translation unit, with the translation word inputted to the translation word input unit (column 14, line 49 – column 15, line 22).

Regarding **claims 13 and 27**, Lee discloses a system for translating a document, comprising:

a translation unit translating an original sentence composing the document (column 5, line 50 – column 6, line 11 with column 12, lines 22-49);

a correction unit correcting the sentence translated by the translation unit (column 5, line 65 – column 6, line 11 with column 11, line 66 – column 12, line 1 and column 19, lines 1-9); and

a category determination unit (word association) determining a category to which a topic of the original sentence belongs, based on contents corrected by the correction unit (column 13, lines 51-58),

wherein when translating a non-translated original sentence composing the document, the translation unit uses with priority (priority) a translation word that is frequently used (frequently used) in the category determined by the category determination unit (column 10, lines 57-61 with column 13, lines 33-37) .

Regarding **claim 15**, Lee discloses a system further comprising

a translation word dictionary file storage unit, in which a word used in an original sentence and a translation word for the word are related and registered (column 5, line 65 – column 6, line 11), storing a translation word dictionary file in which information indicating a category in which the translation word is frequently used, is registered (frequently used; column 10, lines 54-61 with column 13, lines 33-37),

wherein said translation unit translates a non-translated original sentence composing the document using a translation word that is related to the word used in an inputted original sentence, of translation words registered in said translation word dictionary file, and using information indicating that the translation word is frequently used (frequently used) in a category determined by said category determination unit that is registered in said translation word dictionary file (column 10, lines 57-61 with column 13, lines 33-37 and column 19, lines 1-10).

Regarding **claims 18, 21 and 24**, Lee discloses a method, computer-readable storage medium and computer data signal, hereinafter referenced as a method, for supporting translation of an original document, comprising:

determining a category to which a topic of the original sentence belongs (word association), based on corrected contents of an original sentence composing a previously translated document (column 13, lines 51-58); and

translating the original sentence using with priority (priority) a translation word frequently used (frequently used) in the category when translating a non-translated sentence composing the document by machine (column 10, lines 57-61 with column 13, lines 33-37).


***Conclusion***

6. Any inquiry concerning this communication or earlier communications from the examiner should be directed to Jakieda R. Jackson whose telephone number is 571.272.7619. The examiner can normally be reached on Monday through Friday from 7:30 a.m. to 5:00p.m.

If attempts to reach the examiner by telephone are unsuccessful, the examiner's supervisor, David Hudspeth can be reached on 571.272.7843. The fax phone number for the organization where this application or proceeding is assigned is 571-273-8300.

Information regarding the status of an application may be obtained from the Patent Application Information Retrieval (PAIR) system. Status information for published applications may be obtained from either Private PAIR or Public PAIR. Status information for unpublished applications is available through Private PAIR only. For more information about the PAIR system, see <http://pair-direct.uspto.gov>. Should you have questions on access to the Private PAIR system, contact the Electronic Business Center (EBC) at 866-217-9197 (toll-free). If you would like assistance from a USPTO Customer Service Representative or access to the automated information system, call 800-786-9199 (IN USA OR CANADA) or 571-272-1000.

JRJ  
November 13, 2006

  
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